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## "CHISELERS" ARE REMOVED FROM COUNTY CHARITY ROLLS

### War on Persons Who Seek to Supplement Their Income by Aid Supplied by Taxpayers Is Launched Under Direction of Charities Superintendent

"War on chiselers" was under way this week by a corps of special investigators for the county charities department, in a determined effort to remove from the welfare rolls every man or woman who is not eligible for charity by reason of hidden income.

Thirty-five specially trained men were sent into the field Monday by Earl E. Jensen, charities superintendent, as a result of a check-up late last week in the Hollywood district which showed that many persons in that area on charity rolls were receiving income from sources other than the county.

Taxpayers who are "keeping the county going" are lending excellent support to the department's request for instances where persons are not entitled to charity, according to W. Harold Kingsley, chief investigator. Last week in the Hollywood district, 44 "chiselers" were closed in one day, and was reduced in 24 other instances and 14 applications for aid were held up pending further investigation.

In one instance an investigator posed as a clerk in a "corner grocery store" and took names from the check-out counter of some dozen families. He checked the names against the department's confidential index, and found that six of them were on the county charity rolls. The "detective" used several such methods, but are keeping their methods secret for the most part.

This week the county had 116,416 cases, or 456,784 persons on its charity rolls, according to Kingsley. The past week's activity has saved the county \$4000 a week in the Hollywood instance alone. Information on undeserving cases should be conveyed to Kingsley at 615 Law Building, Los Angeles, either by letter or personal call.

## Thomas Gutcher Is Found Dead Monday Morning

### Aged Man Passes Away of Acute Heart Trouble After Brief Illness

Thomas Gutcher, age 61, residing at 2071 1/2 Torrance boulevard, was found dead in bed at his apartment shortly after 8 o'clock Monday morning. The aged man had been ill for several days and death is believed to have been due to natural causes, although examination of his body at Stone & Myers mortuary disclosed a deep gash and four small cuts on his right forearm and a similar cut on his left arm. A safety razor blade was found lying on the floor beside the bed but the absence of blood stains about the bed and floor indicated that the wounds were not the immediate cause of his demise.

Robert Croker, residing at the same court, looked in at the apartment about 8 o'clock, but believing that the aged man was sleeping he did not disturb him. At 9 o'clock, another friend of Gutcher's, who went to the room a little later, discovered that he had passed away and called Stone & Myers, who informed the police and the body was removed to the mortuary.

Gutcher's relatives, Thomas S. Gutcher, a son, who is a member of the Los Angeles city fire department, and Aubrey Gutcher, his brother, a tailor at 94th and Vermont avenues, were notified.

An autopsy was held Tuesday morning, which disclosed acute heart trouble as the cause of death. Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon at 1 o'clock from Stone & Myers under the auspices of a Long Beach Masonic lodge. Interment was made at Roosevelt Memorial Park.

### POSTOFFICE CLOSED ALL DAY WEDNESDAY

Postmaster Easy Connor advises the public that on account of the Memorial Day holiday, the post-office will be closed all day next Wednesday, May 30.

### THEATRE CHANGES HANDS

John C. Shaban has purchased the Lomita Theatre from its present owners, and took possession this week. It has been running for a number of months under the management of J. D. Baker.

## Around the Council Table

A number of objections to granting a franchise to the California Water Service Company for the use of streets in Hollywood-Riviera were given in a report to the city council Tuesday night by City Engineer Leonard and City Attorney Rippey. However, before final action is taken on the water company's application, city officials agreed to grant a hearing, the date for which has not been set as yet.

Rental of a tractor, scraper and other equipment for \$1.00 per month until July 1, was authorized by the city council. It was revealed that the city intended to purchase this equipment from a Los Angeles firm after July 1 at a price not to exceed \$250.

City Clerk Bartlett reported the receipt of a \$38,000 check for taxes from the county auditor, eliminating the necessity for further issuance of warrants.

Councilman Stanger reported the purchase of a camera and flashlight equipment for \$42, for the use of the police department in securing evidence necessary in court trials.

Approval of a \$60 service charge for annual membership in the League of California Municipalities was voted.

A resolution in support of the federal appropriation of \$77,000,000 for flood control in the foothills was authorized and dispatched to Washington.

Use of the city bus for transporting members of the Four Square Gospel church to a picnic at Banning Park was denied.

A communication from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce asking that the city yard and dump be removed from its present location was ordered tabled for two weeks, due to the absence from the council meeting of Councilman Hitchcock, chairman of the public works department.

Superintendent of Parks Gascoigne reported that service lines were laid, ready for gas connections at the city park.

A resolution protesting the consolidation of Lomita township with Inglewood township was passed by the Torrance city council Tuesday night, and ordered sent to the board of supervisors.

Following the reading of a communication from the Chamber of Commerce asking that efforts be made to improve the center portion of Cabrillo avenue, a committee was appointed to study the legal and engineering phases of the problem. Members of the investigation committee are Councilman W. T. Klusman, chairman; City Engineer Leonard and City Attorney Rippey.

## Police Disperse Crowd At Meeting

Arrival of the "red" squad from San Pedro police department broke up a meeting in the yard at 1506 Carson street yesterday morning, where a scabber orator was haranguing a crowd. The gathering was reported to Torrance police who summoned the San Pedro officers as the territory is out of their district. Whether any arrests were made could not be learned.

### ATTENDS EASTERN MEETING

O. A. Kresse, superintendent of the open hearth department of the Columbia Steel Company, left Wednesday evening to attend a United States Steel Corporation meeting in Youngstown, Ohio.

## NEW WORLD'S CHAMPION

### Big Warehouse Being Erected By Steel Mill

Following the issuance of a \$15,000 building permit, construction was started this week on a large warehouse by the Columbia Steel Company on its property in Torrance. The building will be 50 feet by 300 feet and will be used for the storage of steel sheets. A five-ton overhead crane will be installed and other equipment provided to expedite the handling and shipping of sheet steel.

Torrance C. Welch, 1604 Juniper avenue, also took out a permit for an addition to his home.

## Baby Orchestra To Appear Here Friday, June 1

### Concert At Torrance High School Gym Open to the Public

Torrance High school will present the Arch Neas Baby orchestra Friday evening, June 1, in a concert at the gymnasium, to which the public is invited. The entertainment is given for the benefit of the Torrance Forensic Forum, Junior class. Tickets will be on sale after tomorrow at a very moderate price.

This orchestra has appeared in Torrance on one or two other occasions, so that all are familiar with the type of music offered by this remarkable aggregation. They play the works of the old masters with the skill and understanding of "performers" many years older. Ages of the performers run from two to five years.

## Quinn to Visit Torrance Masons Friday, June 1

Unusual interest is being taken in the monthly meeting of the Torrance Masonic lodge on Friday, June 1, as it is anticipated that Hon. John R. Quinn, chairman of the county board of supervisors and candidate for state governor, will make his annual visit to the Torrance lodge on this evening. The meeting will be called at 8 p. m. and all Masons are urged to attend.

## Veterans' Graves To Be Decorated On Memorial Day

Friends or relatives of deceased veterans of the World War who are buried in Roosevelt Memorial Park, are requested to notify the Bert S. Crossland post of Torrance or the Gardner post, American Legion, of the location of their graves so that their resting place may be appropriately decorated on Memorial Day, May 30. It is the desire of the Legion that each departed veteran shall be remembered on this day. Each year, says James H. Scott, chairman of the committee on grave decoration, as we place a cross and a wreath on known graves, we realize that there are many not shown in the records. In order that all may receive this recognition, those who know of the location of a veteran's grave in Roosevelt Memorial Park, are asked to render this service to their departed friend, of letting the committee know where it is so that decorations may be placed upon it.

### REPORTED MISSING

J. W. Welch, 21615 Center street, Keystone, reported to the sheriff's office today that his wife had been missing since 11:30 yesterday morning from their home. She left home accompanied by her 4-year-old child and had not returned this morning.

## 18 YEAR OLD RECORD FALLS BEFORE FLYING ZAMPERINI

### Enthusiastic Crowd Cheers the Torrance "Iron Man" as He Rips Off Four of the Fastest Laps in World History; The Great Hooper Drops Out Before the Finish



LOUIS ZAMPERINI

First Torrance athlete to win a first place for his school in the Southern California finals. Holder of school record, West Marine League record, Marine (now Pacific) League record, Southern California and world high school record for the mile.

Hail the world's champion. Torrance fans in the stands at the Coliseum went wild with enthusiasm last Saturday afternoon when they watched their white hope, Louis Zamperini, swing around the oval four times to finish yards ahead of the fastest field ever assembled in the mile in the Southern California finals and set the remarkable record of 4 minutes 21.3 seconds for the event.

And the Torrance fans were not the only ones who cheered madly for their favorite. The crowd had been waiting all afternoon for the mile race. The other events were thrilling, interesting and brought prolonged applause as the records dropped, but the whole gang was waiting to see the race of the century between the state champion, Hooper of Antelope Valley, who has held the record for two years, and who had been touted by metropolitan sports writers to repeat this year, Zamperini of Torrance and Mercer of Hoover, his most dangerous challengers.

So many runners were entered that two were placed a yard back of the first line. Louis was one of them. The gun popped and they were off. Louis took his time in the first lap, running third from the last place. Hooper, starting in the fourth lane, was well ahead. The two Indian runners from Sherman institute took the lead and a gap of 20 yards separated them from the pack.

On the second lap Louis swung out into the second lane and lengthened his stride. Running like a machine he passed up man after man to pull into fifth place. The pace was terrific. On the third time around Louis began to go places. Without a break in his long ground-eating stride he forged ahead. Hooper was faltering, dropping back. Mercer was pounding along in dogged determination. He tried a sprint but it was no use. The black-scarfed menace from the little old town of Torrance had his number, and he was back in second place in the field with only the Indian boys still out in front of Zamperini.

Ten yards separated Zamperini from their flying heels but the "Iron Man" dashed on and dragged them back. The pace was too hot for even their rugged endurance and they folded. Down the stretch Louis ran with the lightness of a feather, the speed of an antelope.

Mercer ten yards behind was making his last bid but he could not gain an inch. The zooming TURN TO STORY ONE

### Brooks Appointed To Stanford Post

Phillips Brooks, 1328 Portola, has received the news of his appointment as an assistant instructor in the department of biology at Leland Stanford University, to take effect at the beginning of the winter quarter next December.

## Torrance Firm Gets Roosevelt Highway Paving

### United Concrete Pipe Corp. Awarded Two Big State Paving Jobs

SACRAMENTO, California, May 24.—(Special to Torrance Herald by United Press)—United Concrete Pipe Corporation of Torrance today held two state contracts for grading and paving. One contract covers the paving of five miles of the Roosevelt highway, between Redondo Beach and Wilmington through the city of Torrance. The bid, which specified asphaltic concrete pavement, was \$296,563.25.

The other contract awarded the Torrance firm was for eight miles of pavement on Manchester avenue, between Downey and Buena Vista. The bid was \$234,247.

Beach Brothers of Torrance was second low bidder on the Roosevelt highway job, their bid being \$301,809.

## City to Build Fire Station At Walteria

### Council Buys Lots On Boulevard and Orders Immediate Erection of Building

Immediate construction of a new sub-station for the Torrance fire department at Walteria was authorized by the city council Tuesday evening. The council ordered the erection of the building put in charge of a competent local contractor with instructions to hire men from the list of unemployed Torrance workmen.

The new fire sub-station will be built on lot 35, block A, tract 3506, which was purchased by the city council Tuesday night for \$250. The cost of the building was estimated at \$750. The new Walteria fire-hall site has a frontage of 35 feet on Hawthorne boulevard and is 73 feet deep. As soon as the building is completed, one of the three fire trucks now at the central fire-hall will be stationed at Walteria, providing a much-needed protection for this section of the city.

## Threats of Violence Alarm Lomita Dwellers

Threats of violence growing out of the longshoremen's strike at the harbor have caused a reign of terror in Lomita during the past few days, with many residents applying to the office of Constable Charles R. Taber for protection against unidentified parties who are alleged to have made intimidating visits to their homes.

## No "Chiselers" Are Discovered In This District

More "cases" were closed than were opened last week in the local county unemployment offices, says B. C. Buxton, manager. This is due to a number of things, said Mr. Buxton. Many of those who have been receiving aid have now obtained employment, or some other change has come about in their circumstances which makes it unnecessary for them to apply to the county for relief.

Very few cases, in fact no cases of "chiselers" have been uncovered as yet in this district, although some are now being strictly investigated.

An intensive drive has been launched by the county charity department to drive out all those who are deliberately taking advantage of the relief situation. The number of charity investigators in the county has been trebled for the drive, with 25 student visitors on the civil service lists being mobilized for the work. Hundreds of "tips" have already been received by the department, which will be thoroughly investigated.

Earl E. Jensen, head of the county charities department, and Frank Y. McLaughlin, SERA director, listed the following consequences facing exposed "chiselers": Immediate withdrawal of all aid; criminal prosecution in flagrant cases where fraud and receiving money under false pretense are clearly indicated; loss of SERA work privileges.

## MERGER OF TOWNSHIPS CAUSE OF WIDESPREAD INDIGNATION

### Abolition of Justice Courts and Constables' Offices In Torrance, Redondo Beach, Gardena and LaRambra, Hotly Contested

Large delegations of indignant citizens from Torrance, Lomita, Redondo Beach, Gardena and other communities in the Southbay district, are planning to "storm" the board of supervisors Monday morning in protest to the action of the supervisors taken last Friday in consolidating the town-

ships of Lomita (of which Torrance is a part), Redondo Beach, Gardena and LaRambra, with Inglewood township. This consolidation if allowed to stand would eliminate the justice courts and constabulary offices at Torrance, Lomita, Redondo, Gardena and LaRambra, and make it necessary for citizens in these communities to travel to Inglewood for the transaction of justice court matters.

The ordinance which will effect the consolidation, was completed by the county council's office Tuesday of this week and will be up for final adoption, or rejection, at the next meeting of the supervisors Monday. All the supervisors, including Chief Clerk Marie Beatty, left Tuesday morning for Santa Cruz to attend a convention of state supervisors' association and will remain out of the city until Saturday night. However, secretaries of the supervisors and deputy county officials have been besieged with protests. Strongest opposition to the township consolidation plan is coming from Supervisors Quinn and Thatcher's districts, both of whom are fighting vigorously to defeat the move.

Considerable opposition has also developed in Burbank and Lancaster, which are in the district represented by Supervisor Roger Jessup, author of the consolidation move, and it is hoped that sufficient pressure will be brought to bear upon Jessup to get him to retract his support. Districts represented by Supervisors McDonough and Raine are not affected.

A number of indignation meetings have been held throughout the county and there is every indication that the supervisors' hall will be crowded Monday morning with delegations demanding that the matter be dropped.

While the consolidation of the county's 46 townships into 28 was recommended by the efficiency board as an economy measure, claimed to save \$100,000 a year, those who have made a close study of the matter contend that it is doubtful if there will be any real saving. Salaries paid to justices in the smaller townships are less than a third of the salaries which will be required by law, under the new setup. Thus, it is argued, at least three of the present justice courts may be operated as economically as one larger court. For instance, the salary of Judge John Dennis of Lomita township is \$1500 a year, whereas the salary that will be paid at the consolidated township at Inglewood will be \$5000 a year.

Many consider that the consolidation plan is a move on the part of attorneys to monopolize the justice court positions, as under the new set-up, all townships would become "Class A" justice courts, which require that the presiding justice be an attorney with at least two years practice. However, incumbent justices, who are not lawyers, are permitted to run for re-election.

The principal objection to the consolidation is the inconvenience which residents would experience by reason of having to travel long distances, and the delays which are inevitable in the crowded calendars of larger township courts.

Supervisor John R. Quinn was absent when the matter was brought up by Supervisor Roger Jessup last Friday and approved by a vote of three to one—the dissenting vote being registered by Supervisor Thatcher. Upon learning of the surprise move in his absence, Quinn stated that he would demand that the action be rescinded.

"I hesitate to go down in my district in the face of the public opinion that has been created by the merger of Redondo Beach, Gardena, Lomita and LaRambra townships with Inglewood township," Quinn stated. "Nearly all of these townships as they now exist represent large populations with individual community problems. It is not feasible to merge such townships of various geographic and community interests," Quinn added.

Another woman, whose name could not be learned, is reported to have left Lomita during Monday night, but whether she left because of trouble over the strike or because of financial difficulties is not known. The woman is reported to have had an altercation with alleged strikers one night last week.

Lomita and Harbor City have many residents who are employed at the harbor, men who have held such jobs for years. Many of them have continued to attend to their jobs as usual since the strike started and are not taking part in it.

These persons are now being terrorized with a campaign of intimidation, and live in daily fear of injury to themselves or their families and homes.

### GUEST OF HONOR

Louis Zamperini, new world's high school champion, was the guest of honor last Monday evening at the Kiwanis Club meeting and today at the meeting of the criminal prosecution in flagrant cases where fraud and receiving money under false pretense are clearly indicated; loss of SERA work privileges.